

Retail Case Study MGI Metro Group

File transfer problems.
Solved.



Europe's largest commercial IT Group optimizes IT administration and delivers business efficiency with Accellion Secure File Transfer.

Background

MGI METRO Group Information Technology GmbH with subsidiaries in Poland, Romania, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine, is the national and international IT service provider for the companies of METRO Group, one of the largest and most international retailing companies with 300,000 employees and locations in thirty-two countries. MGI's tasks include systems development and consulting (merchandise management, logistics, SAP, data warehousing, store automation, management information and archiving systems), the operation of computer centres, the provision of network services, optimization of IT purchases and the group-wide coordination of IT strategy.

MGI provides all companies of METRO Group with corporate IT infrastructures as a basis for communication and data transfer. For this purpose, MGI operates one of the largest European in-company networks that 80,000 email users connect to in more than 2,000 corporate locations.

Challenges

Initially, MGI implemented FTP for exchanging large files with the company's staff and vendors. However, IT administration and support were spending more and more time on administrating the FTP site, including setting up new accounts and also supporting current users. Another big concern was that the file transfers were not secure. To complicate matters, it was impossible to track whether files actually went to the intended recipient. It was clear they needed a solution that would be easily adopted by end-users, worked through email without compromising the network and would eliminate administrative overhead and support headaches.

Solution

Accellion was the solution of choice. MGI chose the Accellion Secure File Transfer Solution for its ease of use, hands-off administration, enterprise class tracking and reporting capabilities. Accellion also compliments MGI's commitment to the environment with emission-free digital file transfers.

MGI selected the VMware-certified Accellion Virtual Appliance which enables seamless integration with the existing virtual infrastructure, allowing rapid installation and deployment, as well as providing the green benefits of virtualization, including reduced hardware and power consumption in the data center.

The Accellion Secure File Transfer Solution has enabled MGI to save time and cost by streamlining business processes and reducing IT support. With Accellion, even the largest files, for example, orders, inventory updates and multimedia files, are easily and securely transferred throughout the firm's locations in thirty two countries, without compromising the network. Costly shipping of confidential documents by express courier is eliminated. Customers and suppliers are automatically signed into the system with no IT involvement, significantly lowering the need for IT support.

"The Accellion solution has not only eliminated our FTP support issues but also reduced the practice and expense of shipping large files on CDs via overnight courier. With Accellion, our users easily send files around the world with absolutely no trouble!"

Group Information Technology IT Manager,
MGI METRO Group

BENEFITS

- Reduced IT support for global operations
- Courier and delivery cost savings
- Reporting and tracking capabilities
- Virtual appliance seamlessly integrated to existing virtual infrastructure
- Environmentally responsible emission-free file transfers

Specifications

MGI Metro Group	
Deployed since	April 2008
# of Appliances	1
Location of Appliances	Germany
# of Internal and External Users	1000 Internal Unlimited External
LDAP/AD directory integration	Yes
Email Integration	No
Deployed since	April 2008